

Vanderbilt

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Vanderbilt! We rejoice that you are here to worship God with us.

Children are important members of our faith community and are welcome in worship. Nursery ministry is also available. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. As a courtesy to others, please turn off cell phones during the service. The asterisk (*) in the bulletin indicates that the congregation is asked to stand as able. We use responsive or unison readings and prayers at different times. The leader will read the words in *italics*, the congregation reads words in **bold print**.

VPC MISSION

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live like Christ in a broken world.

- To Proclaim the Gospel
- To Glorify God in worship and deed
- To Equip our congregation for ministry
- To Serve others in Christ's name.

VPC VISION

A congregation...

- ...so grounded in scripture and sustained by prayer,
- ...so committed to spiritual growth and faithful discipleship,
- ...so inviting, welcoming and inclusive,
- ...so nurturing and healing,
- ...so mission-minded,
- ...so vibrant, energetic and open to opportunities to share the Gospel that lives are transformed by the love of Christ.

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

We invite you, members and visitors, to sign our Green Friendship Pads and pass it down your pew and back, to welcome those with whom you are worshipping. If you are visiting, please fill out the blue card and leave it in the green pad.



1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, Florida 34110 — www.vpcnaples.org
Office: 239-597-5410 — Learning Center: 239-594-9557
The church is a member of the Peace River Presbytery, the Synod of South Atlantic, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — OneLicense.net # A-719387



November 12, 2023 10:00 am

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost - Family Led Worship

The flowers on the chancel are sponsored in honor of all Veterans by Ron Sieling and Joan Elliott and in appreciation of the VPC Stephen Ministers for their outstanding support by Pete Schwiers.

The fellowship hour is sponsored in appreciation of the Stephen Ministry program for their outstanding support by Pete Schwiers.

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor
James Cochran, Director of Music, playing the **Richard & Patricia Fors Organ** given to the glory of God and in honor of James Cochran, Organist
Heather Mikes, Director of Christian Education
Susie Hilton, Liturgist
Addison Acx, Avery Acx, Olivia Carver, Evangeline Mikes, Scarlett Mullen, Youth Liturgists

Julie Carver, Pianist
The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician
Youth Acolyte, Wyatt Gersch
Greeters: Bill & Geri Payne
Ushers: Karen Chappler (Head Usher), David & Susan Aufderhaar, Pat Rose, Gwen Salyer, Carolyn Magarro
Youth Ushers: Sydney Carver & Alyssa Gersch

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 70

¹ Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me!

² Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life.

Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me.

³ Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame.

⁴ Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.

Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

⁵ But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!

You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

Prelude: Two Preludes: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" and "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"
George Lachenauer (b. 1933)

Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

* Call to Worship:

Put away the things you have substituted for God.

Let your worship of the one true God be genuine.

We seek to know God and to rejoice before our Creator.

We know that God is beyond all our false images.

Our hope is in God's grace beyond all judgment.

Our trust is in God's love, greater than our feeble imitation.

We welcome the light God promises us.

We seek to respond with faithful service.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #561: "My Country 'Tis of Thee"

AMERICA

1. My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
Let freedom ring!

2. My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above.

3. Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees, Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

If sin means cutting ourselves off from you and being unprepared to respond to your presence, surely we have sinned. Our lamps are not trimmed; our lives are not ready for your trumpet call. We have not listened well or encouraged one another in the faith. The distraction of many things has kept us from meditation and prayer. We are witnesses against ourselves, for we have vowed our loyalty and then have gone our own way. Merciful God, we seek your forgiveness. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* Gloria Patri

Henry Greatorex (1816-1858)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

A Moment for Children

Heather Mikes

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message. After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children and youth ages PreK-3 through High School may go to Sunday school or families may choose to worship together in the Sanctuary.

**Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

Prayer of Illumination

The First Reading

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

¹ "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Foolishness"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith:**

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image of all genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: "God Bless America"

Irving Berlin (1888-1989)
arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)

The Chancel Choir

*** Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Hymn #564: "O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies"

MATERNA

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain! America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness! America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!
3. O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life! America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine.
4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears! America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

* Commission and Blessing

We will serve the God we have met here.

We know that God goes with us everywhere.

May worship continue wherever we go.

May our service extend God's love to all we meet.

Alleluia.

Amen.

* Benediction Response: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

(Copyright 1955 by Jan-Lee Music. Renewed 1983. Used by permission.)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, children all are we; Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude: "Hymn to Joy"

Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.



Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad and all veterans who have served our country bravely. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

November 19, 2023 — Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost — Dedication Sunday

Sermon: "You are So Talented"

First Reading: I Thessalonians 5:1-11 — Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

TODAY! JOIN A GROUP!



WORSHIP. EQUIP. SERVE.

Plug In To Family Led Worship

October 22, November 12 & December 17
10:00 a.m.

I am the vine,
you are the branches.
John 15:5



Calling all youth, ages 4th grade and older!



Learn about
helping in worship
by serving as an
acolyte.

Meet Mrs. Mikes after Family Led Worship on Sunday,
November 12 at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

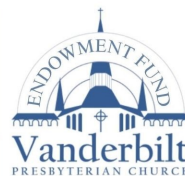
WE NEED USHERS!

WE HAVE A SMALL, BUT DEDICATED
GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS THAT
USHER FOR OUR WORSHIP
SERVICES.

WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO HELP!
IT IS A WONDERFUL WAY TO MEET
CHURCH MEMBERS AND WELCOME
VISITORS TO VPC!

CALL THE OFFICE TO JOIN!
239-597-5410

RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE.
ENSURE THE FUTURE OF VPC.
MAKE A PLANNED GIFT.



Contact Us | 1225 Piper Boulevard Naples, FL 34110 | www.vpcnaples.org | 239-597-5410

- CASH
- STOCK/GIFTS OF SECURITIES
- BEQUESTS
- REAL ESTATE
- LIFE INSURANCE
- RETIREMENT ASSETS

- IRA CHARITABLE TRUST ROLLOVER
- CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST
- CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

When we offer our resources to God's Kingdom, miraculous multiplication of ministry can occur.
By offering what we have, no matter how insignificant it may appear, we are trusting that God will provide and will use our offering for abundant good.

Questions?

Contact a member of the **Endowment Fund Ministry Team:**
Steve Blad, Julie Borden, *Chair*, Debbie Dawley, Doug Dunn,
Don Fern, Steve Kutler, Jon White & Jackie Woodring.

Giving Back to God

2024 Annual Stewardship



Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Christmas TOY Drive!

Every Christmas, VPC delights in our Toy Drive, bringing joy to deserving children in need. Toys will go to the Salvation Army & Misión Peniel.



Bring a new, unwrapped toy to the office, church or school by Sunday, December 10, 2023.

Join the VPC Book Club!

We meet on the third Monday of each month, starting November 20th at 1:30pm in Harp Hall. Are you out of town? You can Zoom into the meeting!



We will be discussing *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

For more information, email Peggy Landon mlandon711@gmail.com

Ladies! Join us for fellowship and tea to ring in the holidays!

Ladies Christmas Tea
Saturday, December 2, 2023
at 11:00 a.m.

All girls, young women and ladies are invited. Children, youth and adults! Wear fancy finery! A free-will donation will be collected to benefit Misión Peniel. Sign up in Fellowship Hall on Sundays or call the office at 597-5410.



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Collier Harvest: Monday, November 13 at 4:15 pm** (heavy lifting) **4:45 pm** (packing). Email Pete Rodino with questions or to volunteer pvrodino@aol.com.
- **Grace Place:** Volunteers are needed to help with the Food Pantry on **Friday, November 17 from 12-4 pm**. Email Colleen for more information or to volunteer, colleen.durham@graceplacenaples.org.
- **Café of Life:** Join us on **Friday, November 24 at 9 am** to serve a meal to those in need. elizanevin@comcast.net.

Join us for the Gratitude Potluck!

Wednesday, November 15, 2023
5pm - Worship in Sanctuary
5:30pm - Potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall

Sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall on Sundays or email Heather Mikes at hmikes@vpcnaples.org to sign up and bring a dish to share.

The 2023-2024 Concert Series
at Vanderbilt



November 19, 2023 at 4 p.m.
Wojciech Wojtasiewicz, Organ

Wojtasiewicz will play works of Bach, Franck and Vierne and bring his own special flair to the Lively Fulcher organ at Vanderbilt!



Pick up a brochure for a full list of concerts. Copies are available in the Office or the Narthex.

"Rejoice with those who rejoice: mourn with those who mourn." Romans 12:15
A celebration can be such a small thing; A smile after crying, a few steps out to the garden, going out to eat, having the strength to go to church. All the little daily things warrant celebration.

stephen
MINISTRY.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. Also, if you have any joys or concerns, let us know. They are lifted up daily through our intercessory prayer ministry. Prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for 30 days, after which a new prayer request card should be submitted.

Loraine Atkinson	Nancy Diederich	Chester Kauffman	Cathy Nathan
Linda Bauer	Jim & Marlene Everson	The John Kennedy Family	Laura Piipponen
Bob Bearden	Marie Geiser	Robbie Landon	Sam & Marilyn Scheller
Adriana Caruso	The Dave Glynn Family	John Locker	Pete Schwiers
Dick Clark	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Doris Martin	Lou Thompson
Molly Cochran	Bunny Heitmann	Miranda	Dan Westerlund
Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Joan Mountford	Chris Wood and Family

Happy Birthday!

Patti Runkel	11/12
Martha Broeker	11/13
Tarie Curtiss	11/13
Kathe Hall	11/15
Ben Hood	11/15
Jack Ballurio	11/16
Mary Giles	11/17
Dan Meeuwsen	11/17
*Janet Minch	11/17
Linda Swihart	11/17
Gordon Black	11/18



***Birthday Club** Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special day. The Education Team may annually request up to 5% from the Club for Youth and Education Ministry!

Happy Anniversary!

Peggy & Dale Free	11/16
Bruce & Heidi Stryker	11/18

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING OUR COUNTRY

If you have any additions or corrections to the list below, please email Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org). Thank you for your continued prayers for these military personnel.

ENSIGN Francis Alvares US Navy, Pensacola, FL (Friend of Jay & Mary Chesslo)	MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	CPTN Devon Hennessey Korea (Toni Hubbard)
MSgt Kristopher Chesslo USAF (Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)	COL Jessica D. Grasseti (Claudia Polzin's niece)	SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Okinawa, Japan
LT Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel/SEAL Team (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	1st LT Jacob Guzman US Army—Seattle, WA (Cesar Guzman's son)	MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:

- Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. **239-597-5410**
- Go to www.vpcnaples.org/live/ to view our Livestreamed worship.
- Questions? Check our weekly email: **"Week at a Glance!"** every **Monday** morning.